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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable EVAN BAYH, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by guest Chaplain, Canon Pastor Lawson Anderson, of Trinity Cathedral, Little Rock, AR.

It is my privilege to notify all those present that Reverend Anderson is the uncle of our colleague, Senator BLANCHE LINCOLN of Arkansas.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, as we prepare in the week ahead to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of this Republic, we commend this Nation to Your merciful care, and we pray that being guided by Your providence, we may live securely in Your peace.

Grant to the President of the United States, to the Members of this Congress, and to all in authority wisdom and strength to know and to do Your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this country in Your fear. Guide them as they shape the laws for maintaining a just and effective plan for our Government.

Give to all of us open minds and caring hearts and a firm commitment to the principles of freedom and tolerance established by our Nation's founders and defended by countless patriots throughout our history.

Help us to stamp out hatred and bigotry and to embrace the love and concern for others that You have clearly shown to be Your will for all mankind.

Bring peace in our time, O Lord, and give us the courage to help You do it.

We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable EVAN BAYH led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 26, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable EVAN BAYH, a Senator from the State of Indiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BAYH thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

I shall take the privilege of the Chair and say that was an especially moving invocation this morning.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I thank the Chair.

I thank the Senator from Nevada and all of my colleagues for the opportunity to share with you all this morning a very special individual in my life. I have been very blessed to grow up in a very close-knit family of supportive and encouraging people. My uncle, the Reverend Lawson Anderson, is just one of those wonderful people. I grew up within walking distance of both sets of my grandparents, and on hot summer days I would walk over to his mother's home and in the cool of his house play the organ that she practiced as she was the organist for our church.

One of the most wonderful stories and I think lessons I have learned from my Uncle Lawson I would like to share with my colleagues. He did not get started in ministry. His degree is in

forestry. He began as a forester. He then went into banking and figured out, in order to really make it through life, he needed the wisdom and the courage that came from the ministry, which he joined later in life. He did say, however, that one of the best lessons he learned was not necessarily from the ministry but from his time in the forest industry.

He talked about dealing with problems in life, and he said one of the best lessons he learned as a forester was when he was very young and was presented with a forest fire, a difficult problem. He was beating at that fire with a shovel, and one of the older members of the forestry team came up to him and said: What are you doing? He said: I am putting this fire out; I'm putting it out. And the wise forester, who was beyond I guess his years in wisdom, looked at Uncle Lawson and said: That is not how you conquer a problem. The way you conquer a problem and, more importantly, a forest fire is you walk around it; you approach it from the front; you evaluate the circumstances: Which way is the wind blowing? What kind of moisture is there in the area? And then you dig a hole all the way around so that you encircle your problem and you actually take care of the whole thing. You do not just beat at it, but you make sure you get in front of your problems, you assess the situation, and you face them head on.

I am honored and privileged to serve the people of our great State of Arkansas. It has been something that has certainly been incredible in my life. But when I am able to bring to the Senate and share with these individuals, these incredible individuals with whom I serve in this great body, someone who has been a major part of shaping my life and molding me into the person that I am, it is, indeed, my

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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